Belfast Firm
North side of Belfast Rd.
 between Wheeler Land
 and PricevilleRd.
Not accessible
Ca. 1850

Belfast Farm was the small, but substantial home of a farmer of moderate means. Although the exact date of construction is not known, testimony in an equity case\* between the survivors of John 3. Ensor indicates that William C. Ensor and his father jointly purchased the farm and erected the house, a barn and outbuildings. The house appears on the 1850 map of Baltimore County (Belfast Road has since been relocated around it) and on the Agricultural Census of that year.

William C. Ensor occupied the dwelling until 1882 when it was sold to Sarah C. Brooks as a result of the lawsuit. There have been several additions made during the 20th century.

<sup>\*</sup> See Judicial Liber WMI 90 folio 114 (1882), Baltimore County Courthouse.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

# INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

BIABATT				
NAME				
HISTORIC				
AND/OR COMMON		1		
Ве	elfast Farm			
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER				
North side	of Belfast Road	between Wheeler		
CITY, TOWN		140114TV 05	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	СТ
Sparks		VICINITY OF	COUNTY	
Maryland			Baltimore	
CLASSIFICA	TION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESE	NT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X_BUILDING(S)	<b>X</b> _PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	XPRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
OWNER OF		<u>X</u> NO	MILITARY	OTHER
OWNER OF  NAME John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa	PROPERTY nall Smith		Celephone #: 77	1-4343
NAME John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa	PROPERTY nall Smith	Т	Celephone #: 77	1-4343 ip code
NAME John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fe CITY. TOWN Sparks	PROPERTY nall Smith	T VICINITY OF	Celephone #: 77	1-4343 ip code
NAME John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fe CITY. TOWN Sparks	PROPERTY nall Smith	VICINITY OF	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122	1-4343 ip code
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE.	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF IPTION	Celephone #: 77 STATE, z Maryland	1-4343 ip code
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF IPTION	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122	1-4343 ip code
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE.	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF IPTION I ty Courthouse	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122	1-4343 ip code
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF IPTION I ty Courthouse	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122	1-4343 ip code
NAME John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fe CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF IPTION I ty Courthouse	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122 Folio #: 94	1-4343 ip code 21152
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR  C Ealtimore Coun  Washington Ave  Towson	vicinity of IPTION I ty Courthouse nue	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122 Folio #: 94	1-4343 ip code 21152
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESENT	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR  C Ealtimore Coun  Washington Ave	vicinity of IPTION I ty Courthouse nue	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122 Folio #: 94	1-4343 ip code 21152
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN  REPRESENT	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR  C Ealtimore Coun  Washington Ave  Towson	vicinity of IPTION I ty Courthouse nue	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122 Folio #: 94	1-4343 ip code 21152
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESENT	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR  C Ealtimore Coun  Washington Ave  Towson	VICINITY OF IPTION  ty Courthouse nue ING SURVEYS	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122 Folio #: 94	1-4343 ip code 21152
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESENT TITLE None	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR  C Ealtimore Coun  Washington Ave  Towson	VICINITY OF IPTION  ty Courthouse nue ING SURVEYS	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122 Folio #: 94	1-4343 ip code 21152
John Marsh STREET & NUMBER Belfast Fa CITY. TOWN Sparks LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN  REPRESENT TITLE None DATE	PROPERTY  nall Smith  arm  OF LEGAL DESCR  C Ealtimore Coun  Washington Ave  Towson	VICINITY OF IPTION  ty Courthouse nue ING SURVEYS	STATE, Z Maryland Liber #: 4122 Folio #: 94	1-4343 ip code 21152

CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

**CHECK ONE** 

XEXCELLENT \_\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_UNALTERED

XORIGINAL SITE

\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Eelfast Farm is a two and present storey stuccoed stone house, three bays in length facing south, dating from the mid-19th century; a five bay frame addition of the early 20th century extends to the east, its walls and roof coincidental with those elements of the original house and a two and one-half storey frame addition, three bays in length, extends north behind the adjacent bays of the front portions of the house, added in the mid-20th century. A one-storey hipped roof porch extends across the south front and three dormers in the southerly roof light the attic storey. A single-flue brick chimney rises flush with the west gable and another rises internally in the east wing; an external chimney rises from the north end of the north wing. A small stone-walled, gable-roofed cellar entry extends from the middle of the west end. Windows are 6/6 in narrow beaded frames, flanked with louvred blinds. Frame walls are covered with German siding.

The principal entrance, in the westerly bay of the stone section, opens into a hall which contains the principal stair; it rises only to the second floor, its turned newel of moderately hefty proportions and its rectangular balusters supporting the round poplar rail. A single room is west of the hall in each storey. Original doors throughout are of two tall raised, unmoulded panels; architraves at windows and doors are of two planes, unmoulded with a bead around the inner edge. A modern fireplace has been built

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

SPECIFIC DAT	res <sub>Unknown</sub>	BUILDER/ARCI	HITECT Unknown	
		INVENTION		
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
<b>X</b> _1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
500-1599	X_AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located on the north side of Belfast Road between Wheeler Lane and Priceville Road, Belfast Farm was the small, but substantial home of a farmer of moderate means. Although the exact date of construction is not known, testimony in an equity case between the survivors of John B. Ensor indicates that William C. Ensor and his father jointly purchased the farm and erected the house, a barn and outbuildings. The house appears on the 1850 map of Baltimore County (Belfast Road has since been relocated around it) and on the Agricultural Census of that year.

William C. Ensor occupied the dwelling until 1882 when it was sold to Sarah C. Brooks as a result of the lawsuit. There have been several additions made during the twentieth century.

BA-421

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Judicial Liber WMI 90 folio 102 etc. Baltimore County Courthouse.

Agricultural Census of Baltimore County (1850), State Library.

Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Faltimore, Maryland.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6.8 acres 2

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

CITYOR TOWN

Baltimore

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

BA-421

### Question #7 continued

beneath the west chimney but the flue is within the thickness of the wall (it does not project from the wall in the second or attic storey) indicating its having been designed for a closed stove. Moreover there is no structural support for a fireplace in the cellar.

First floor joists are of log, exposed within the cellar; rafters of the cellar entry are log, their mortise-and-tenon joints at the ridge pegged. Attic floor joists and rafters of the house are of the 20th century, contemporary with the east wing, a replacement of an earlier wing which burned.

A stone springhouse stands immediately west of the house; its gabled roof extends over the entry north of the dairy room, supported by the stone retaining wall in the hillside which encloses the spring. Small window openings are in each wall of the dairy room.

A grainery stands southeast of the springhouse, a modified version of many in the region. Stone north and south walls support a hewn log braced-frame second storey and roof structure; framed corn cribs extend north of the north wall in lieu of stone buttresses and a wide extension of the southerly roof, together with a stone west wall, forms a small barn or horse stable. A few stone steps in turn support a wooden stair with open risers to the upper floor at the east end, the stair and its associated entry balcony being sheltered by a cantilevered east gable.

Adjacent to the grainery-stable, a framed bank barn was constructed early in the 20th century. Its tall upper loft storey is accessible on grade at the north and the several doors and windows to the stalls within the ground storey are flush with the loft's south wall.

Belfast Retreat
(Home of M/M Wilbur Pearce)
South side of Belfast Rd.
west of Priceville Rd.
Not accessible
1815-1820

This sturdy stone house was built by William Brooks on land patented by his father, Charles Brooks the Elder as "Belfast". It retain several well-preserved outbuildings.

The Brooks family was a large one and they built several homes in this area and provided a lot for the Belfast public school. One daughter, Mary, married George Chilcoat and, together with their heirs, occupied this house until about 1905.

# INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME				
HISTORIC				
Belfast Retro	eat			
AND/OR COMMON	. M. W. 7.2 D.			
Home of Mr.	and Mrs. Wilbur Pe	arce		<del> </del>
2 LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER		15314		
South side o	f Belfast Road, we	st of Pricevil	le Road CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	IICT
Sparks	_	VICINITY OF	8	
STATE			COUNTY	
Maryland			Baltimore	
3 CLASSIFIC	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X.occupied	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X.BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	BOTH	_WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCERELIGIOUS
SITE OBJECT	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE  _YES: RESTRICTED	ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
OBJEC1	IN PROCESSBEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INOUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
	_bemo considents	X_NO	MILITARY	OTHER
NAME Wilbur Pearc STREET & NUMBER Pelfast Road	e		Telephone #: 4	72 <b>-</b> 2867
CITY TOWN			STATE,	zip code
Sparks		VICINITY OF	Maryland	21152
5 LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	RIPTION	Liber #: 1586	•
COURTHOUSE			Folio #: 132	•
REGISTRY OF DEEDS,	ETC. Baltimore Co	unty Courthous	•	_
STREET & NUMBER	Dal Cimole CO	andy over onoug		
	Washington A	venue	STATE	
CITY, TOWN	m		Maryland	1
	Towson	INC CURVENC		
6 REPRESEN	ITATION IN EXIST	ING SURVE 15	1	
TITLE				
	one			
DATE		FEDERAL	STATECOUNTYLOCA	L
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	

CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

**CHECK ONE** 

X\_EXCELLENT \_\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_RUINS

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_UNALTERED

X\_ALTERED

X\_ORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Belfast Retreat is a stone house, two storeys in height, five bays in length, its principal facade to the east; west of the south end, and with south walls flush and continuous is a two storey, three bay stone kitchen wing of equal height, the unbroken stonework indicating all construction to be original despite the stone wall which separates the main house from the kitchen wing. Remaining original details suggest that 1815-1825 is an acceptable date for this dwelling.

Roofs are gabled and extend over the gables with a moderate rake overhang; the cyma-recta crown moulding (which extends up the rake) suggests a late nineteenth century alteration, further suggested by the presence of earlier crown moulding (consisting of larger cyma-recta over cyma-reversa profiles) visible in the attic, reused as shingle-lathe.

Flush chimneys of stone rise above each gable end, flanked by small attic windows.

Windows throughout are 6/6 with narrow beaded frames and louvred blinds. Masonry above openings is supported by roughly-worked stone lintels. The principal entrance, a single door, is centered on the east facade and secondary entrances are in the middle bay of both sides of the rear wing, and in the middle bay of the west facade of the main house, directly opposite the principal entrance. The south entrance to the kitchen wing is sheltered by a one-bay, one-storey shed-roofed porch and a small stone-walled gable-roofed structure covers an entrance to the cellar at the east end of the south facade.

The window above the principal entrance, centered on the east facade, CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(See Continuation Sheet  $\pm 1$ )

ERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	<b>X</b> AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X.ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X1800-1899	COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
SPECIFIC DAT	ES Unknown	BUILDER/ARCI	HITECT Unknown	

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This stone house, located on the south side of Belfast Road west of Priceville Road, stands on land which was patented in 1799 by Charles Brooks the Elder as "Belfast." The sturdy home of a prosperous farmer, it retains several well-preserved outbuildings.

Charles Brooks' son, William, inherited the property from his father and was undoubtedly the person for whom this dwelling was built. In 1830, at the time of William Brooks' death, the house was left to his ten children.

The 1850 and 1877 county maps, respectively, show John Chilcoat and then George B. Chilcoat, his son, living here. John Chilcoat had married Mary Brooks in 1848 and they and their children occupied the farm until 1905. At that time, the property was sold to Albert Fahnestock, who lived here until 1921 when J. Howard Parks bought it. The present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Pearce, bought the place from Parks' wildow in 1947.

)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAP		
Sidney, J.C. Map of (Baltimore, 1	the City and County of	Baltimore, Maryland.
·		aryland. (Philadelphia, 1877)
	mpany. Genealogy and re. (1897).	Biography of the Leading
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DAT	ГА	
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	84 <b>±</b> acres	
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	ON	
LIST ALL STATES AND COU	INTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPIN	NG STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
07.75		
STATE	COUNTY	
STATE	COUNTY	
11 FORM PREPARED BY	,	
NAME / TITLE		
Catharine F. Black an	d James T. Wollon, Jr.	, ATA
For Valleys Historica	l District Project	
STREET & NUMBER	<u> </u>	September, 1976 TELEPHONE
1114 Bellemore Road		<u> 323-3798                                     </u>
Rel timoro		Montelond

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Apparolis Maryland 21401

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

#### Continuation Sheet #1

### Question #7: Description:

is said to have been a door and an interior recess beneath it suggests the possibility. Now covered externally by the porch roof, this feature may be related to similar conditions at the nearby Fuller House (q.v.).

The typical floorplan includes a central hall with the principal stair rising, open and with intermediate landings, to the third floor; a single room on each side; and two rooms in the rear wing, the rear-most or westerly one having a large fireplace in its southwest corner fitted with a crane for cooking and formerly with an oven built behind the north end of the firebox. An enclosed secondary stair ascends to the second and attic floors north of the kitchen chimney.

The round handrail of the principal stair terminates in a ball, slightly greater in diameter than the rail, on the round tapered newel. The rectangular balusters rise above scrolled step ends. Principal spaces have corner-block architraves at doors and windows, while spaces of lesser importance have beaded architraves with cyma-reversa-with-astrigal backbands. The mantel of the north room (the parlor) has half-oval engaged columns supporting a frieze with carved end blocks flanking a panel with a two-step raise, each step with hollow corners. The mantel of the south room has round columns supporting boldly projecting end blocks with arched panels terminating a paneled frieze. An original built-in cupboard, with a taller pair of doors above, a shorter pair, occupies the recess west of the chimney breast. Original, simpler mantels and other trim remain in second storey rooms. Doors have six partially-raised panels.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

### Continuation Sheet #2

# Question #7: Description:

In the unfinished attic, extending equally above the entire house, some rafters are straight-sawn and tapered while others are small logs with one hewn face; all are half-lapped and pegged at the ridge. Wood shingles are visible beneath the standing-seam tin roof covering.

Close to the south kitchen door stands a frame smokehouse, one storey in height, sheathed in board-and-batten and covered with a gabled roof; its double doors are in its north gable end.

Some distance to the south is a stone spring house, one storey in height, its northerly roof slope of a slightly-flatter pitch in order to extend over the north wall, supported by cantilevered ceiling joists, to provide slight shelter for the entrance therein; the roof ridge is centered above the four stone walls. Each other wall contains a small wood-barred ventilation opening.

The frame grainery, east of the dwelling house, consists of two enclosed areas for grain storage flanking a driveway, the whole covered with a gabled roof. A short addition or outshoot externally on the south side, on a high stone foundation like the principal storage areas, is covered by an extension of the southerly roof slope.

A large framed bank-barn stands southeast of the grainery, its tall upper loft storey cantilevered over the stone ground storey, between projecting stone east and west walls, to shelter entrances and small windows to the stalls within. The hewn timber frame of the barn remains intact and exterior walls are covered with vertical siding. Tall double doors at grade on the north side provide access to the loft within and several louvred openings on the other sides provide ventilation.